



PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

Fort Benning, GA

(706) 545-3512 / 545-2237

Media Advisory: A subject matter expert for controlled burns will be available for interviews, along with an opportunity for b-roll, today. Interested parties should meet a public affairs escort at the Sand Hill gate at 1 p.m.

FORT BENNING – Smoke from a controlled burn drifted across the post's boundaries last night causing excessive smoke in outerlying areas. Due to an unforecasted shift in the wind, residual smoke from a 318 acre controlled burn continued to linger, despite the fire being extinguished at 4:30 p.m. yesterday. Rain predicted for later today is expected to clear the smoke from the air.

All processes and checks to determine burning conditions were followed, and at no time was the fire ever out of control.

The area affected by the burning is scheduled to be replanted with longleaf pine this summer and is not scheduled to be subject for further burning for three to five years. Additionally, the new growth is expected to reduce the amount of ground fuel, which means that future burns in this area will produce 60-70 percent less smoke.

Prescribed or controlled burning is conducted on post only when weather conditions are ideal to minimize its affect on residents on and off post.

For more information, call the Public Affairs Office at (706) 545-3512 or (706) 545-2211.

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